

**MINUTES
of the
THIRD MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**August 7-8, 2014
Room 311, State Capitol
Santa Fe**

The third meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee for the 2014 interim was called to order by Senator Michael Padilla, chair, on Thursday, August 7, 2014, at 9:35 a.m. in Room 311 of the State Capitol.

Present

Sen. Michael Padilla, Chair
Rep. Carl Trujillo, Vice Chair
Sen. William F. Burt (8/7)
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo (8/8)
Rep. Jason C. Harper
Sen. Linda M. Lopez (8/8)
Rep. Debbie A. Rodella
Sen. John C. Ryan
Rep. Luciano "Lucky" Varela
Rep. Monica Youngblood

Absent

Rep. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. James E. Smith

Advisory Members

Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros
Rep. Stephanie Garcia Richard
Rep. Bill McCamley
Sen. Steven P. Neville
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert
Rep. Nick L. Salazar

Sen. Phil A. Griego
Sen. Ron Griggs
Sen. Timothy M. Keller
Sen. Richard C. Martinez
Sen. William H. Payne
Rep. Don L. Tripp
Sen. Peter Wirth

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present during the entire meeting.)

Staff

Gordon Meeks, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Ralph Vincent, LCS
Carolyn Ice, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's web site.

Thursday, August 7

The chair began the meeting with introductions from members of the committee and members of the LCS staff.

Department of Information Technology (DOIT) Project Spreadsheet Summary Update

Darryl Ackley, secretary of information technology, provided the committee with an overview of the DOIT and a status report on its current activities. Secretary Ackley provided the committee with spreadsheets of the current list of projects from the DOIT's Enterprise Project Management Office (EPMO) denoting the agency and total amounts involved. He reviewed the project certification process, which is characterized by four distinct phases: initiation, planning, implementation and closeout. He added that although the phases are distinct, there are some hybrid certifications within the overall process. Secretary Ackley also presented the committee with a list of the closed projects of fiscal year (FY) 2014.

Secretary Ackley told the committee that during FY 2014, 16 projects closed with a combined budget of \$63,538,856. Eighty-seven percent of projects successfully accomplished business objectives, and 94 percent of projects were completed on or within budget, with half completed on or within the baseline schedule. He also provided the committee with a list of links from the EPMO web site to access additional information on the EPMO's top 10 projects, project certificates and project portfolios.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- the DOIT vetting process for funding;
- comparison of the DOIT vetting process to other agencies' vetting;
- review of the ONGARD system and system upgrades;
- monitoring measures;
- safeguards within the ONGARD system;
- a dollar stipulation for certification;
- contractual spending; and
- a customized version compared to off-the-shelf implementations of ONGARD.

For the next meeting, members requested a comparison of the present budget to the previous budget in regards to closed projects. Secretary Ackley assured committee members that he would provide them with more detailed information.

Secretary of State Information Technology System Status

Brenda Fresquez, program evaluator, Legislative Finance Committee (LFC), began the presentation on the Office of the Secretary of State (SOS) information technology (IT) system's status with a brief overview of the core functions of the SOS, which include: 1) elections oversight; and 2) business and corporate services.

The SOS IT system is composed of a Voter Registration & Election Management System (VREMS), Campaign Finance Information System (CFIS), Integrated Reporting & Integrity System (IRIS), Corporations Information System (CIS) and NM Business Filing System (NMBFS). The VREMS holds the centralized voter registration database currently used by all 33 county clerks. The VREMS consists of voter data and history and produces rosters and materials required for all city, county and state elections. The CFIS functions as the financial reporting system used by all candidates, political action committees, lobbyists and lobbyist employers. The CIS is utilized by SOS corporations staff to capture data on more than 330,000 entities in New Mexico. The NMBFS is used to trademark registrations, Uniform Commercial Code filings, notary public registrations, service of process transactions and agricultural liens. The NMBFS will replace the CIS for the registration of corporations and partnerships by the end of FY 2015. The IRIS is the new election system that captures candidate filing data, generates ballot exports, reports public results and features result canvassing.

During the 2012 general election, voters passed a constitutional amendment transferring authority to administer corporate records from the Public Regulation Commission (PRC) to the SOS, and legislators passed enabling legislation to move PRC staff, functions and statutory authority to the SOS. During this transfer, the SOS inherited a backlog of 110 days for FY 2014.

The LFC provided several recommendations to the SOS:

- develop consistent project management practices for all projects;
- establish a standard process and acceptance criteria for all contract deliverables to ensure that contractual requirements are met;
- continue to maintain its asset management and perform an update, at a minimum, annually to prevent using outdated hardware and software, which increases the risk of deterioration and reduced effectiveness;
- build a replacement cycle into the SOS operating budget;
- review, update and distribute the disaster recovery and business continuity plan at least annually to reflect the current business and IT environment accurately and to highlight key personnel changes;
- develop and document procedures that include detailed recovery and response procedures for the network and for all applications, recovery time objectives, notification procedures and the workflow process;
- develop a formal disaster recovery testing plan and conduct training and periodic testing at least annually;
- update disaster recovery procedures based on test results; and

- continue to engage in annual security assessments by a third party and then address identified security vulnerabilities as quickly as possible.

In response to these recommendations, the SOS has implemented:

- consistent project management methodology for all IT projects that comply with guidelines established by the DOIT Compliance and Management Project Division;
- the hiring of a contracts and assets manager to oversee these efforts;
- continued improvements on disaster recovery, business continuity planning and response documentation;
- the inclusion of adequate IT costs in its annual budget request; and
- the inclusion of contract costs as part of its annual budget request.

Kari Fresquez, IT manager, SOS, provided the committee with more information on the SOS's IT status and the office's ongoing projects. The SOS relies heavily on IT to carry out its daily functions. The SOS currently does not have a fully documented and updated disaster recovery and business continuity plan. The SOS is aware of IT security requirements and of potential IT vulnerabilities and has initiated corrective action. According to Ms. Fresquez, in 2009, the SOS did not have the technical capability or capacity to manage IT projects, and it lacked a disaster recovery plan for all of its mission-critical systems. Ms. Fresquez told the committee that, prior to her arrival, official records were not cohesively filed for storage using a standardized method.

Ms. Fresquez then spoke about the upcoming plan to replace all voting equipment before the general election in November. She told the committee that she hopes that the IRIS project will expand to include voter registration, ballot data and race data. The IRIS is a new election system that captures candidate filing data and generates ballot exports, as well as public results reporting and result canvassing, that can be used by the public, county clerks and SOS elections staff.

The benefits of the IRIS are as follows:

- streamlined election reporting results;
- a statewide automated online candidate filing system;
- the capability to provide election services in a statewide uniform delivery method;
- a real-time audit trail for each county's data uploads;
- the capability for counties to import results from the tabulator machines directly into a centralized reporting application;
- accurate canvassing of results by precincts from voting convenience centers;
- the ability to access statewide candidate filings in real time on filing days;
- more effective delivery of election-night reporting;
- the ability to drill down into election reporting data for individual precincts;
- the ability to access a statewide candidate portal;

- the improvement of auditing and accountability of results by precinct and by type of vote;
- proper canvassing of voting convenience centers;
- the ability to conduct the canvass in a more efficient manner and eliminate canvass errors by using a single uniform canvass system for result verification and official reporting;
- streamlined and uniform delivery of data for ballot creation and tabulator programming;
- a standard precinct-level result format for statewide election reporting;
- real-time access to candidate filing information (multicounty and individual county offices); and
- an Associated Press feed available to enable the media to capture accurate results on election night.

Ms. Fresquez told the committee that phase 1 of the tabulator replacement project has been accomplished with the successful implementation of new voting tabulator machines and federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)-compliant ballot-marking devices in Bernalillo, Doña Ana, Sandoval, Valencia and San Juan counties. She went on to say that the NMBFS project is now moving into phase 2 and will, by June 30, 2015, replace all business service and corporations systems used by the SOS and its business and banking customers with a single software solution. The tabulator replacement project is currently in phase 2 with a statewide deployment of voting tabulator machines and ADA-compliant ballot-marking devices in polling locations. Equipment delivery and county training is ongoing throughout August. The IRIS is currently in phase 3, which involves replacing the VREMS.

The IRIS will be customized to comply with New Mexico's election laws and processes. The IRIS will ultimately create a uniform, statewide election management system that will integrate all processes and systems used by the SOS and county clerks during the election cycle.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- components of the IRIS that are already in place and components that are currently being implemented;
- examples of voting fraud within the state;
- examples of malicious voting fraud within the state;
- explanation of system flags;
- purge schedules; and
- rules concerning tabulators.

Information Technology Commission

Jim Hall, chair, Information Technology Commission (ITC), presented the committee with results of a survey conducted by ITC members and gave an overview of the ITC's function and purpose.

Mr. Hall reviewed the commission's duties and the major items of the last three meetings, which took place on December 16, 2013, March 31, 2014 and July 14, 2014. At the meeting in December, the ITC reviewed its responsibilities under the DOIT Act (Section 9-27-9 NMSA 1978). The commission also reviewed the current state IT Strategic Plan and the DOIT's report on IT initiatives and policy issues. During the March meeting, a list of major projects was updated, and members of the ITC were surveyed on their issues and concerns.

The survey showed that security was a top concern among members of the ITC, along with providing a skilled IT staff and broadband availability. Mr. Hall went on to discuss the value of ITC in state government and asked the committee for additional input on the role and charter of the organization. He also told the committee that he would have a preliminary report by the September 14 ITC meeting defining how performance of duties and responsibilities will be supported.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- the amount of money spent on IT;
- appointing members to the ITC;
- duplication of effort;
- the automated asset tool across agencies; and
- internal and external threats.

Members of the committee requested customer feedback and suggested expanding the survey sample because customers are vital to the success of any government agency. In addition to expanding feedback, members requested a breakdown of the survey into internal and external threats.

Energy Technology: Gas Pipeline Issues

Tom Domme, New Mexico Gas Company (NMGC), explained to the committee the causes of the "Arctic Storm" gas shortage of 2011. His presentation consisted of background information and a summary of the outage; what NMGC has done since the outage to prevent another gas shortage; and a summary of the investigation and conclusions by Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the PRC. Mr. Domme then gave an overview of the natural gas industry in New Mexico, emphasizing that NMGC is a distribution company.

The storm that occurred during January 30 through February 3, 2011 affected Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Mexico. Albuquerque experienced 88 consecutive hours below freezing, with temperatures in northern New Mexico registering even colder. According to Mr. Domme, gas purchases in 2011 increased by 35 percent on February 1, 55 percent on February 2 and 62 percent on February 3 in preparation for the storm. In addition to above-forecast gas purchases, NMGC took the following precautions:

- an increased line pack;
- maximum storage draw-down;
- all key personnel put on call;
- compressor stations prepped for cold weather and staffed continuously; and
- constant communications with suppliers and pipeline operators.

Mr. Domme told the committee that the gas shortage was caused by undelivered gas supplies due to complications from the weather. He told the committee that 20 percent of the planned deliveries were missed, as well as wellhead freeze-offs and electrical outages affecting natural gas production and pumping operations. With the drop in temperatures, demand for gas soared and interstate pipeline pressures dropped, consequently causing local distribution system pressures to drop, thus requiring NMGC to curtail its deliveries to 28,000 customers to preserve the integrity of the entire system. He said that the system design dictated that NMGC reduce demand by taking the following steps:

- identify critical valves that were easily and quickly accessible by crews;
- close valves to those portions of the system already experiencing low pressure;
- terminate service to one of two Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) electric generation plants; and
- complete emergency measures within 20 to 30 minutes.

Areas such as parts of Albuquerque and Santa Fe were not chosen for shutdown because their systems and valve configurations were too complex to shut down in the time available. Ultimately, systems with single valves were chosen. During a system emergency, NMGC takes actions necessary to maintain system operations to as many customers as possible.

Mr. Domme told the committee that over 1,000 individuals participated in the recovery process and the system was re-lit by Tuesday, February 8. A relief fund was also established by NMGC to help alleviate the hardships to the hardest-hit customers and to supplement other sources of assistance. More than 2,200 claims were filed, and all but \$14,000 has been paid out to date.

Additional measures have been taken by NMGC since the February 2011 outage, which include:

- developing a comprehensive emergency communications plan;
- isolating additional valves throughout the distribution system to facilitate curtailment of customers in a supply shortage situation;
- acquiring one billion cubic feet of additional storage at the Keystone underground storage facility in Texas and negotiating for backup electric supply at that facility;
- studying and proposing a backup liquified natural gas storage facility located west of Rio Rancho that would be able to feed both the northern leg and southern leg of the distribution system;

- engaging in incident command training and exercises with the New Mexico Emergency Operations Center and the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department;
- identifying global positioning system location points for all customers, resulting in more precise location descriptions for customer meters;
- renegotiating several gas supply contracts with gas suppliers to provide more favorable terms;
- negotiating higher pressure minimums on the El Paso Natural Gas Company, LLC, (EPNG) transmission line;
- working with PNM to create better pathways of communication to assure cooperation and assistance in future gas shortage situations;
- improving pipeline communications with Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC, and EPNG and participating in tabletop mock exercise drills with EPNG;
- reconfiguring compressors on the southern segment of the company's distribution system;
- upgrading and reinforcing various parts of the north and south segments of the system;
- cooperating fully with investigations by the PRC, the FERC, utility staff and others; and
- investing \$94 million over the past three years.

LANL and the PRC reported that if the scheduled gas deliveries had been received, the system would have remained stable and no service interruptions would have occurred. The FERC reported that specific measures can and should be taken to improve the reliability of the natural gas supply to consumers during extreme cold, not all of which measures are subject to the FERC's jurisdiction. The PRC also suggested that NMGC find better methods to communicate with local officials and the public in the future.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- what constitutes a valid claim;
- which communities were affected by the curtailment;
- what has been done to transfer information to customers;
- what is being done to ensure that customer data are updated and current; and
- the creation of NMGC.

Members requested a report detailing the specificity of the new valve system and requested more information regarding the added communication measures that will be instituted between NMGC and customers in emergency situations.

Science Championship

Representative McCamley presented to the committee his plan to create a competitive science championship within the state. He emphasized the importance of science research and its

benefit toward improving the quality of life for New Mexicans. He told the committee that there are not enough science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)-educated people in New Mexico. For every person with a STEM education, there is an average of 2.1 job openings, while for everyone else, there exists an average of 3.2 people per job opening.

Representative McCamley identified a contributing problem as a lack of interest in older students. Around the sixth grade, STEM education is devalued socially. Representative McCamley's proposed solution to this problem involves: 1) providing positive social feedback to students interested in STEM education; 2) giving students an environment supported by both teachers and peers and that is competitive to provide goals; and 3) allowing creative expression and growth.

By modeling science cultivation on structured athletic systems, Representative McCamley hopes to create a structured competition that provides positive social feedback and that is fun for students interested in STEM. Current problems for STEM extracurricular programs within the state are: 1) lack of centralized structure; and 2) lack of funding, which means that there is no guarantee of coaching or programs in some schools. To alleviate these issues, Representative McCamley proposes that the Public Education Department work with the New Mexico Activities Association to create a centralized STEM championship, as well as to provide funding at every school for a "STEM Coach".

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- current science standards;
- common core revisions;
- information about schools with science programs that are currently in place;
- definition of "coach" in the STEM education context; and
- application of the STEM program to charter schools.

Rural Telecommunications Access

Leo Baca, CenturyLink, gave the committee an update on the federal Connect America Fund (CAF) Phase II. Mr. Baca told the committee that the CAF Phase II is the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) program to deploy broadband networks in selected unserved high-cost areas that are served by price cap carriers. Mr. Baca gave the committee an overview of the CAF Phase II process, which includes the following:

- price cap incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) will be offered CAF Phase II funding for qualified locations for a five-year period, along with the right of first refusal at a statewide level; and
- for price cap ILECs that do not exercise the right of first refusal, the CAF Phase II support and markets will be subdivided and auctioned in a to-be-determined manner, and support will be paid to the winning bidder for a period of 10 years.

Mr. Baca went on to tell the committee that the FCC is reconsidering several of the established rules as stated in the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM) provided to members. The FNPRM statement acknowledges that the FCC is developing new rules and is allowing a window of time for input before the rules are finalized. Comments regarding the proposed changes in the FNPRM were due on August 8, 2014, with replies due on September 8, 2014.

The latest CAF Phase II FNPRM seeks input on key issues regarding:

- increasing the CAF Phase II broadband speed requirement to 10 megabytes per second (mbps) downstream, up from four mbps;
- the proposed increase that would make several more areas and households eligible for benefits under the CAF Phase II;
- whether it is acceptable to require less than 100 percent build-out; it is recognized that some areas may be cost-prohibitive to build; and
- increasing the length of the funding period of up to 10 years for price cap ILECs that accept the state-level commitment.

Mr. Baca ended his presentation by encouraging members to provide comments or letters to the FCC in support of these changes and by participating in the challenge process to improve telecommunications in rural parts of the state.

Committee members adopted a motion to accept the letter as written but requested that the document be checked for grammatical errors.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:37 p.m.

Friday, August 8

Centers of Excellence Update

Fred Mondragon, former secretary of economic development, gave the committee a brief history and update on the Centers of Research Excellence and Technology Commercialization. Mr. Mondragon told the committee that the program is composed of five centers at three research universities. He attributed the success of the centers to: 1) hiring a world-class chief scientist; 2) alliances formed with industries; and 3) frequent monitoring by independent oversight.

Mr. Mondragon and Kevin Malloy, associate dean for research, University of New Mexico (UNM), told the committee that the Center for High Technology Materials (CHTM) at UNM was created for applied research in optoelectronics, microelectronics and nanotechnology. The CHTM receives \$9.7 million in state funding but has procured \$190 million from grants and contracts. Annual contract revenue is approximately \$8 million from government and industry, with future growth possible by collaboration with the federal Center for Integrated

Nanotechnologies and future collaboration with Sandia National Laboratories. Mr. Malloy also told the committee that the federal Department of Defense (DOD) has issued a procurement challenge to university/industry consortiums for the creation of Institutes for Manufacturing Innovation. The CHTM currently has the opportunity to participate in and possibly lead an effort to base a Photonics Manufacturing Technology Institute at UNM with the DOD, providing grants of \$15 million per year to recipients.

Dr. Daniel H. Lopez, president, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NM Tech), discussed the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center (EMRTC) at NM Tech, which promotes economic development through research in explosive materials. The EMRTC's current revenue is \$50 million annually, and it has approximately 200 to 300 contracts per year with the DOD, the federal Department of Energy, the federal Department of Homeland Security, the National Science Foundation and private industry for research and services.

The centers are looking to expand into space commercialization, astronomy and astrophysics, energy and water centers and cybersecurity/asset protection.

Committee members requested a tour of the center at NM Tech and discussed the possibility of incorporating the centers with the Jobs Council.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- locations of centers;
- compensation for training;
- income from training;
- requests for appropriations;
- Higher Education Department participation; and
- one-time money distribution among universities.

Shared Renewable Energy Facilities

John Gusdorf, Renewable Taos, presented the proposed legislation supporting shared renewable energy facilities to the committee. Mr. Gusdorf began with an overview explaining the definition of a shared renewable energy facility and explained the function of a subscription within the context of shared energy. A subscription entitles its owner to a percentage of the facility's monthly production, which is then subtracted from the owner's monthly electricity bill. The first shared renewable energy facility in New Mexico is located in Taos, behind Taos Charter School.

Mr. Gusdorf told the committee that the advantages of shared renewable energy facilities include:

- making renewable energy available to those who cannot or do not want to have equipment on their property;

- taking advantage of economies of scale; and
- making renewable energy available to those who cannot afford up-front costs.

Mr. Gusdorf expressed the need for legislation, based on the following reasons.

- Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association, Inc., limits the amount of electricity that any of its member cooperatives can generate to five percent of their total sales.
- Investor-owned utilities (IOUs) are not required to allow such facilities in their service area.
- Many families in New Mexico cannot afford the up-front costs of renewable energy and may not qualify for loans at low interest rates.

The proposed legislation would remove restrictions on renewable energy facilities located on the owner's property and would modify the Public Utility Act to make it legal for shared renewable energy facilities on the site of subscribers to be treated exactly as facilities on a host's site. The bill also requires IOUs to allow shared renewable energy facilities of up to two megawatts to be built in their service areas and allows cooperatives to permit shared renewable energy facilities on a voluntary basis. The second proposed bill requires the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) to facilitate shared renewable energy facilities through special-access mortgage packages.

Questions and discussion from the committee members included:

- language in the bill that states limitation of use;
- effects on private property;
- the MFA allocation of funds; and
- permissible language for the MFA.

Electric Vehicle Tax Incentive

Representative Jim R. Trujillo, Dan Lorimier, Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club, and Tammy Fiebelkorn, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, gave a presentation on advancing electric vehicles (EVs) in New Mexico. The main points of the presentation included the economic benefits, reduced fuel costs and reduced environmental impact of EVs.

Ms. Fiebelkorn began the presentation by explaining the different types of EVs. Plug-in hybrid vehicles run on batteries charged from the plug and shift to gasoline power when batteries drain. Battery EVs, on the other hand, are solely powered by batteries and are distinct from conventional hybrids currently on the market. She also stated that statewide fuel cost savings would increase if more people bought these vehicles, and she assured the committee that EVs can adequately meet the needs of most New Mexicans in both urban and rural areas.

The proposed legislation, based on House Bill 136 of the 2014 legislative session, is

sponsored by Representative Trujillo. The legislation involves an annual fee of \$30.00 that EV owners would pay into the State Road Fund, with a \$2,500 tax credit for buying an EV. The bill also provides for a 30 percent tax credit for commercial charging stations, with a cap of \$3,000, and a 30 percent tax credit for commercial charging stations with solar capabilities, with a cap of \$5,000. The proposed annual EV fee is meant to contribute to road and bridge maintenance. The proposed tax credit is meant to encourage the purchase of EVs. Although most EV charging occurs at home, workplace and public charging infrastructure is also necessary to sustain EVs in New Mexico.

The estimated benefits and fiscal impact of the proposed legislation include:

- \$48 million in additional EV sales over the next three years;
- \$12 million in additional federal tax credits to New Mexico residents;
- fuel savings to consumers over four years of \$4 million;
- \$6 million investment in 600 new charging stations;
- at current sales levels, a vehicle credit of \$500,000 per year; and
- charging tax credits equaling \$500,000 per year at 125 stations per year.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- a set amount versus a percentage for State Road Fund contributions;
- how many and what size of charging stations are needed to charge multiple cars;
- charging duration at charging stations;
- charging duration with use of a manufacturer's charger;
- a registration fee for EVs;
- a state fee for EVs; and
- a charging fee.

New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Status Report

Mike Nunez, acting chief executive officer, New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange (NMHIX), gave the committee an update on the NMHIX. Mr. Nunez told the committee that the NMHIX board was appointed in April 2013, and over the past 15 months, in addition to enrolling more than 34,800 New Mexicans in individual or Small Business Health Options Program plans, the NMHIX has accomplished several financial and enrollment goals.

Mr. Nunez told the committee that the NMHIX has executed Human Services Department agreements to transfer grant funds and has received over \$122 million in federal funds. With the available funds, the NMHIX obtained office space and implemented on-site enrollment at the office and established a 24/7 call center, which has handled more than 47,000 calls with an average 25-second wait time. He spoke about the NMHIX's emphasis on transparency and its efforts to increase enrollment and outreach throughout the state.

The NMHIX created a comprehensive enrollment system with more than 300 health care

guides and more than 300 brokers throughout New Mexico, as well as implemented training and certification programs for its staff. The NMHIX's statewide outreach campaign has achieved several partnerships, including chambers of commerce, counties and higher education and advocacy organizations. Mr. Nunez went on to say that outreach efforts have also included online resources and educational literature as well as robo-calling, canvassing and tele-town hall strategies to reach more than 241,000 New Mexicans.

As of July 2014, there were 34,262 individual enrollments, which Mr. Nunez told the committee is a reasonable number with respect to the number of people living in poverty in the state. He added that the NMHIX is taking measures to increase enrollment through increased outreach and marketing. The NMHIX anticipates greater use of brokers during the next open enrollment period starting November 15, 2014 and is currently reevaluating marketing strategies and developing new approaches. The NMHIX plans to issue an additional request for information to solicit outreach approaches and partners and gain additional feedback through regional debriefing and stakeholder meetings.

Questions and discussion from committee members included:

- the role of the navigator;
- the difference between a navigator and an in-person assister;
- the number of people enrolled;
- the projected number of total enrollment;
- variables affecting enrollment;
- change of the chief executive officer;
- the role of Dr. J.R. Damron, chair, NMHIX;
- the role of Jason Sandel, NMHIX board member;
- the vote on staying with the federal government;
- Mr. Sandel's dissent on staying with the federal government;
- migration to the state;
- the meaning of "stranded";
- web sites for information about the NMHIX;
- the total cost of implementing change;
- involvement of the DOIT;
- how Arkansas and Kentucky obtained 50 percent of their targeted population; and
- the condition of Idaho.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.